

MR. ARASHI'S  
**AMAZING**  
**FREAK SHOW**



S  
U  
E  
H  
I  
R  
O  
  
M  
A  
R  
U  
O



\$10.95



Suehiro Maruo's astonishing and powerful illustrations create a masterpiece of surrealism in his retelling of this classic Japanese tale of a little lost orphan ensnared in a traveling freak show.

Suehiro Maruo lives in Tokyo, and MR. ARASHI'S AMAZING FREAK SHOW is the first of his works to be translated into English.



## NOTE

To preserve Suehiro Maruo's original design, *Mr. Arashi's Amazing Freak Show* has been published in the same page order as the Japanese edition.

The pages and the text balloons on each page are to be read from right to left—the opposite direction of English. English translations of sound effects appear beside the Japanese characters.

**MR. ARASHI'S  
AMAZING FREAK SHOW**

# MR. ARASHI'S AMAZING FREAK SHOW



**SUEHIRO MARUO**

TRANSLATED FROM THE JAPANESE BY  
YOKO UMEZAWA AND LAURA LINDGREN

BLAST BOOKS  
NEW YORK

Copyright © 1984 by Suehiro Maruo

*Mr. Arashi's Amazing Freak Show* was originally published in Tokyo by  
Seirindo as *Shōjo-Tsubaki*.

Translation copyright © 1992 by Blast Books

Sound effects translated by Sergei Hasenecz and Linda Hayashi.

All rights reserved.

No part of this book may be reproduced in any form,  
by any means, without the express written consent of the publisher.

Blast Books gratefully acknowledges the generous help of Hiroo Yamagata.

Published by Blast Books, Inc.  
P. O. Box 51  
Cooper Station  
New York, NY 10276-0051

English-language interior design: Laura Lindgren

Manufactured in the United States of America

# THE CAST



MR. ARASHI



SNAKE WOMAN



THE GIANT



HONICHI THE HUMAN PRETZEL



IKKA KITA<sup>1</sup>



MIDORI



MASAHITSU THE BOTTLED WONDER



FATHER & MOTHER



THE HUMAN WORM



THE MUMMY MAN



HIBARI MISORA<sup>2</sup>



SPOTTED GIRL<sup>3</sup>



KANABUN THE BOY-GIRL

<sup>1</sup>1883-1937 RADICAL NATIONALIST

<sup>2</sup>POPULAR JAPANESE SINGER

<sup>3</sup>DOES NOT APPEAR IN STORY.



大人二付  
客留

SOLD OUT

CHAPTER  
ONE

PATIENCE  
AND  
OBEDIENCE







SLIMY GREEN SNOT!  
MOUNDS OF  
STINKING EARMWAX!



SEE THE DIRTIEST TEETH  
IN THE WORLD!  
OOZING STIES!



RIGHT BEFORE YOUR EYES,  
MARVELS AND MONSTROSITIES!

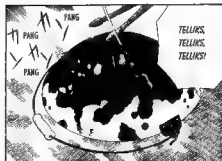
LIVE—LIVE—LIVE—  
A HEAD FULL OF PUS!  
IT'S ASTOUNDING!  
IT'S SPELLBINDING!  
IT'S BEYOND YOUR WILDEST DREAMS!



WHAT A HAIRY NIGHT!  
COME GAPE AT THE MAN APE!  
THE HUMAN WORM  
WILL MAKE YOU SQUIRM!  
SEE SOCIETY'S OUTCASTS,  
MANKIND'S UNWANTED,  
THE WORLD'S GREATEST CURIOSITIES!

FOR THE EXTRA CURIOUS AND EXTRA DARING  
A SPECIAL PERFORMANCE IN THE BACK  
SEE THE HALF WOMAN—HALF MAN!  
WATCH A COCK RIDE THE BACK OF AN ASS!





TELLIKS,  
TELLIKS,  
TELLIKS!



THAT'S WHY  
... WE'LL  
TELLI ...

AHEM.  
WELL, YES,  
IT'S AN UPSIDE-DOWN  
SKILLET ...



THAT'S STUPID—  
THAT'S NOTHING BUT  
AN OLD SKILLET.



OF COURSE NOT.

DAMN BRATS!!  
HEY, DID YOU  
LITTLE STINKERS  
PAY FOR THE SHOW?



NYA, I GET IT.  
SOMEBODY  
CHUCKED UP  
ON THAT PIECE  
OF WOOD.

AND NOW—  
A WOODHUCK!!





Dear Madame Cassandra.

I am twelve years old. Three years ago my father went away and never came back home. So my mother and I were alone, but then she died and I didn't have any place to live



anymore. One day I met the owner of a freak show and he tricked me and ever since then I've been forced to work in his zaiwu show. My life is so horrible, sometimes I wish that I could die. I can't go to school. I can't sleep at night, I'm so worried. What will become of me? What should I do?

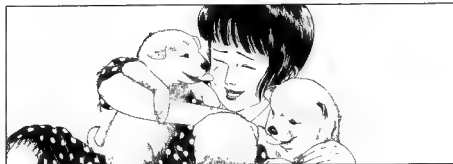


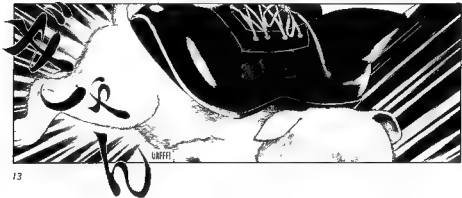
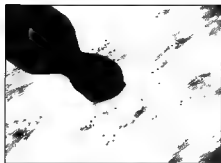


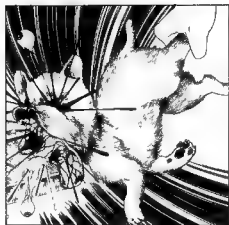
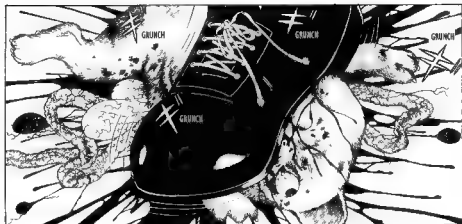


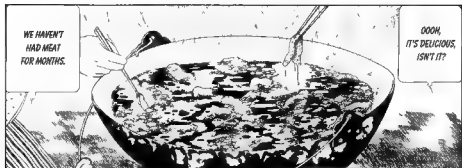












MY LITTLE DOGGIES!  
MY LITTLE DOGGIES!





**CHAPTER  
TWO**

**THERE'S  
NO PLACE  
LIKE  
HOME**

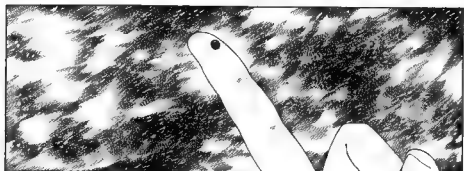
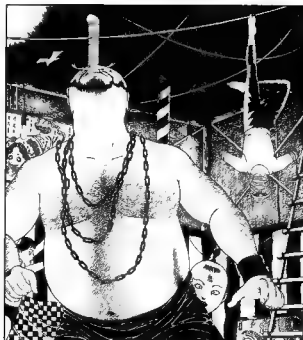


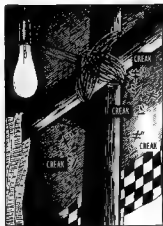






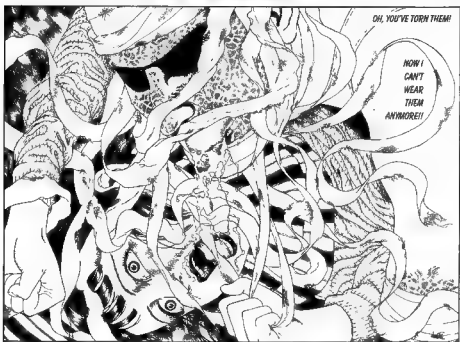


















OH, IF ONLY MY HEAD COULD ESCAPE THIS WORLD.





ANDORI,  
AFTER YOU GIVE  
HOHICHI A BATH,  
GIVE ME ONE TOO.



MONSTERS!!



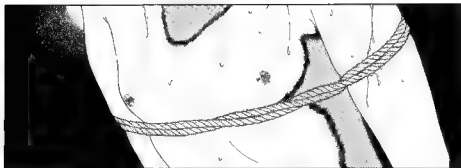
HURRY UP,  
IT'S COLD!



MONSTERS  
MONSTERS  
MONSTERS!!

MONSTERS!!  
MONSTERS!!







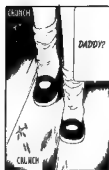
**CHAPTER  
THREE**

**OUT OF  
THE  
BLUE**

**YIPES!**









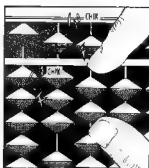














HUH!  
WHAT A THROBBL!



NOBODY COMES  
TO SEE THE SHOW  
ANYMORE WE'LL  
NEVER GET  
ENOUGH MONEY  
TO GET OUT  
OF HERE.

ARE WE  
JUST GONNA  
STARVE TO  
DEATH?



SHUK



NOW WHAT  
ARE WE  
GONNA DO?



HE'S A FOOL  
TO JOIN  
THIS LOUSY  
GARNY ACT.



THEY SAY  
HE USES  
WESTERN  
MAGIC.

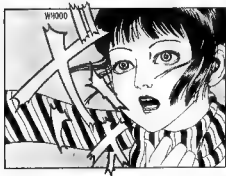
I HEAR ARASHI'S  
FOUND SOME  
NEW GUY  
FOR THE SHOW.



WE'RE  
REALLY  
SCREWED!

I GUESS I'LL  
JUST HAVE TO  
GET SOME WORK  
DIGGING  
DITCHES.







FOREVER WANDERING  
UNDER THIS LIGHT OF THE AURORA,  
THIS ENDLESS SIBERIA.















CHAPTER  
FOUR

FAME  
AND  
MEDIOCRITY









I COULD MARRY YOU...  
BUT I'M NOT A VIRGIN ANYMORE.



THE "BOTTLED"  
MIDGET IN A BOTTLE

# 幻戯 瓶の中の一寸法師

世界一!!

## ワンダ正光氏

THE ONE AND ONLY MASAMITSU THE BOTTLED WONDER!



RIGHT THIS WAY!  
PAY AS YOU GO!  
IT'S A FEAST  
FOR THE EYE AND THE MIND!

OUT OF  
MY WAY,  
YOU!

I WANNA SIT  
UP FRONT!

BOOM

YOU JERK—  
STOP PUSHING!

### 瓶の中の一寸法師

世界一!!  
ワンダ正光氏

STEP RIGHT UP!  
YOU CAN PAY AS  
YOU GO! STEP RIGHT  
UP AND AVOID  
THE RUSH!

BOOM

大

大

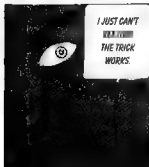
大

HEY!  
DON'T PUSH ME!









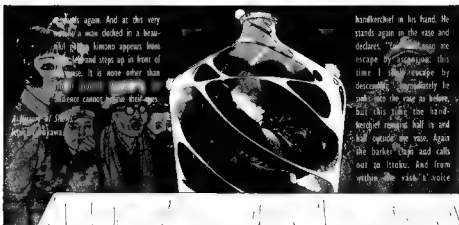
knees. As the crowd roars, Itoku protests that it is too difficult to get into the bottle. But the carry barker standing alongside him objects, "You know you always like getting into the vase—what's this sudden reluctance?" The handkerchief clasped in his right hand, Itoku begins to sink down into the vase. His shoulders disappear, and after fidgeting a moment at the edge of the vase, the handkerchief too disappears into the vessel. Suddenly the barker claps his hands and calls out to Itoku. A voice resounds from inside the vase. As the voice continues to speak from within the vase, in the ceiling directly above a hole opens up from which Itoku slowly descends, still holding the

The curtain rises. At center stage stands a vase three feet in height whose mouth measures at about a foot and a half in diameter. Itoku appears on stage and tilts the vase down to show the audience it is empty. Then he places the vase atop a large table beneath which there is nothing—no devices of any kind. Several feet behind the table hangs a white curtain from above. Six candles encircling the table are lit, and they illuminate the stage very brightly. Dressed in a suit and holding a red handkerchief in his hand, Itoku steps into the vase and stands up straight. The vase comes up only to his



again. And at this very moment a man dressed in a beautiful kimono appears from the side and steps up in front of the vase. It is none other than the famous actor, and the audience cannot but see their

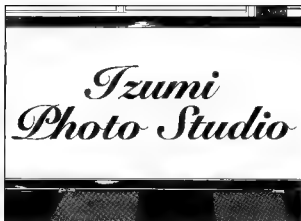
handkerchief in his hand. He stands again in the vase and declares, "I shall never escape by any means; this time I shall escape by descending." Immediately he sinks into the vase as before, but this time the handkerchief remains half in and half outside the vase. Again the barker claps and calls out to Itoku. And from within the vase a voice

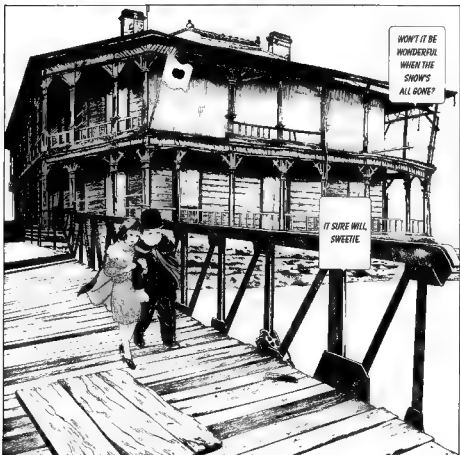


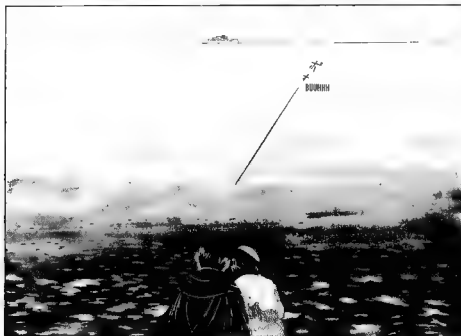


READY?

NOW, SMILE!











LET ME TELL YOU

"THE DARKNESS HOLDS MANY MYSTERIES  
THE DAYLIGHT MAY BRING UNTOLD DANGER  
IN THE DEAD OF NIGHT DARK SPIRITS SPREAD PLAGUES  
AND MID-DAY BRINGS RELENTLESS DISEASE  
YET THOU MUST NOT BE AFRAID . . ."  
THAT IS IT. DO YOU UNDERSTAND?

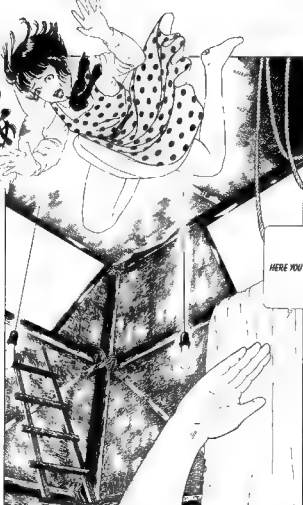
YES, I DO







まじであーあ





HA HA  
HA HA!



UUUUHH



ROUND AND  
ROUND AND  
ROUND SHE  
GOES!



DROP DEAD,  
YOU, YOU...

FASTER!  
FASTER!

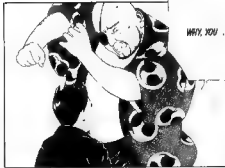


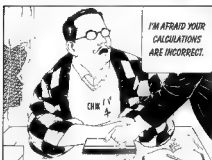














LEAVE  
EVERYTHING  
TO ME.



JUST  
LEAVE IT  
TO ME



DON'T WORRY  
ABOUT THE  
MONEY. I'LL—



TEE HEE HEE...

TEE HEE HEE  
HEE HEE...

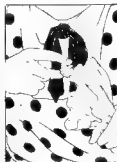


I PROMISE  
I'LL NEVER  
BULLY YOU  
AGAIN.

SORRY ABOUT  
WHAT  
HAPPENED.



TEE  
HEE  
HEE



ANDORI.



LET'S BE  
FRIENDS  
AGAIN.



IT'S JUST  
THAT  
LATELY  
YOU'VE...

YOU KNOW



I REALLY LIKE YOU.

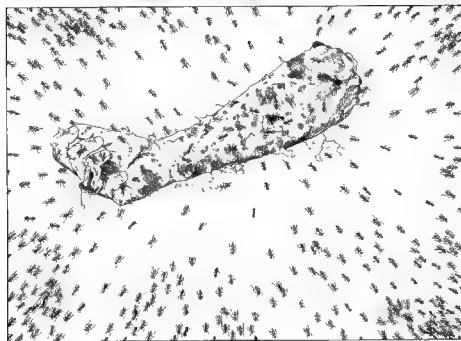


BELIEVE ME.  
I DO.



THAT FUCKING  
MIDGET CAN'T  
HAVE HER. NO  
FUCKING WAY.

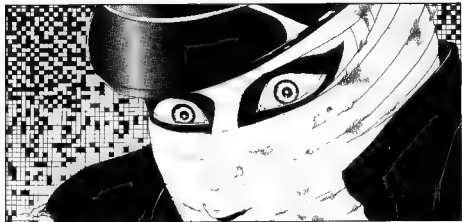
MIDORI  
IS MINE.



**CHAPTER  
FIVE**

**THE  
WAGES OF  
SIN**











WHO  
WHO  
ARE YOU?

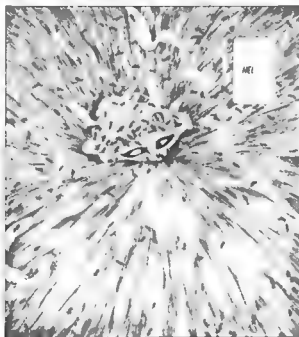
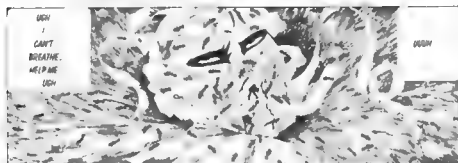


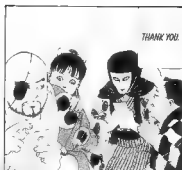
I AM YOU

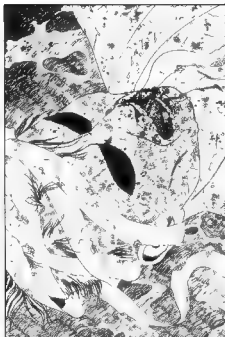


TAKE  
MY HAND.













YES, I SAW IT!!  
YOU WERE  
SHOWING DIRT  
IN HIS MOUTH



THEY'D HUNT US DOWN  
IF THEY  
FOUND OUT

WE WOULDN'T  
TELL A SOUL



I'M SCARED!



I DID IT  
FOR YOU,  
ANDORY



WE'RE  
BETTER OFF  
WITH THAT  
ASSHOLE DEAD







YOU MUST  
STAR IN  
OUR FILM

FROM NOW ON YOU'LL LIVE  
LIKE A PRINCESS INSTEAD OF  
BEING A CHILD SLAVE  
TO THESE FILTHY  
CARNIVAL FREAKS.



YOU'LL BE  
AN OVERNIGHT  
SENSATION.



HUMPH  
AND DORY GOT  
THE LEAD  
ROLE

WE'VE SEEN  
YOUR STAGE  
PERFORMANCE  
AND YOU'RE JUST  
THE GIRL WE NEED

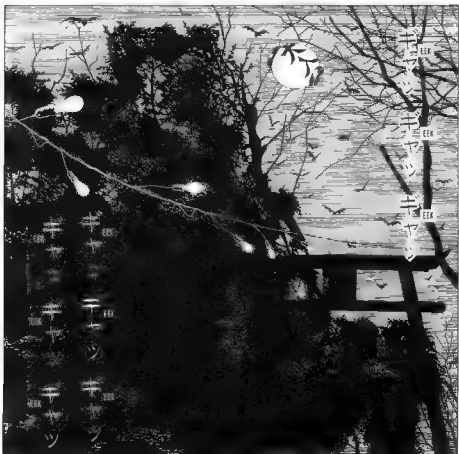
WE'RE LOOKING FOR  
A GIRL TO PLAY  
THE LEAD IN OUR  
NEW FEATURE FILM  
WELSHING  
ON A STAR.

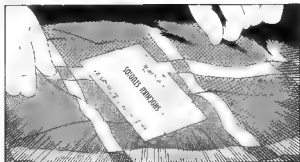


YOU'LL BE SERVED  
THE FINEST DELICACIES  
AND TREATED  
LIKE ROYALTY

FROM HERE ON IN  
YOU'RE GOING TO LIVE  
IN A PALACE









# CHAPTER SIX

# THE RECKONING

## Geld um Ehre nehmen!!

DIGNITY FOR SALE



Mule-Faced Woman  
Glimming Geek  
Human Torch  
Alligator Lady  
Amazon Giantess  
Sword Swallower  
Human Pincushion  
Big Bertha  
Pin-Headed Boy  
Confounding Contortionist  
Fish-Faced Girl  
Hermaphrodite  
Pickled Punk  
Mesmer the Mentalist  
Double-Bodied Wonder  
Iron-Tongued Marvel  
Four-Legged Girl  
Third-Sex Family

Frog Boy  
Headless Girl  
Tattooed Marvel  
Fire Eater  
Eighth Wonder of the World  
Snake Charmer  
Triple-Jointed Dwarf  
Dog-Faced Woman  
Mammoth Maniac  
Windbag Man  
Gargantua  
Blockhead  
Popeye  
Pretzel Man  
Pig-Faced Lady  
Human Cannonball  
Eighty-Year-Old Boy  
Anatomical Wonder

The Human Lightning Rod  
Amazing Memory Man  
Cloven-Hoofed Girl  
Perplexing Prestidigitateur  
Herculean Hulk  
Incombustible Woman  
Fire King  
Stone Eater  
The Human Aquarium  
Le Pétomane  
Man with X-Ray Eyes  
Fire Walker  
Mermaid Baby  
Horned Woman  
Armless Wonder  
Iron-Neck Phenomenon  
Two-Faced Man  
The Human Knot

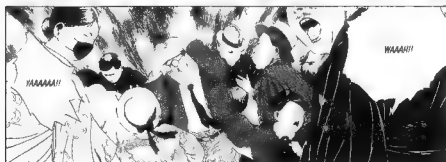
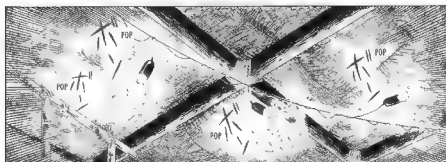
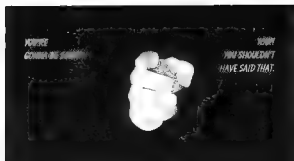


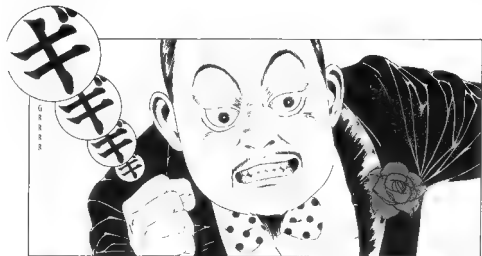














OOO-WAAAAH

DRRRRR



OOO-WAAAAH





WHAT  
THE HELL



AHHH  
AHHH  
ST  
STOP IT!!  
AWUUHHH

STOP IT!!  
PLEASE!  
PLEASE!  
STOP!  
STOP!



OOO-WAAAH

OOO-WAAAH

OOO-WAAAH

OOO-WAAAH

OOO-WAAAH

OOO-WAAAH



CONVULSE!!

TWIST YOUR BONES!!

SWELL UP  
TILL YOU BUST!!



















CHAPTER  
SEVEN

'TIL  
DEATH  
DO US  
PART

④④  
ザ  
キ  
タ  
ロ  
ン  
...





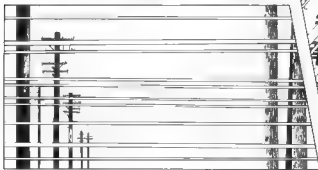
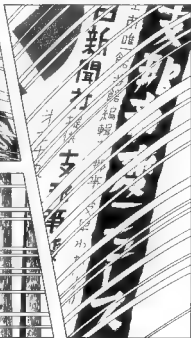
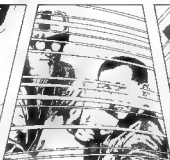


KEEP GOING,  
STRAIGHT AHEAD  
TO THE INSIDE



KEEP GOING  
STRAIGHT AHEAD



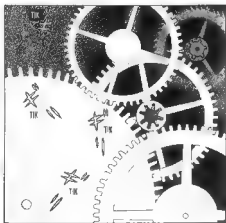
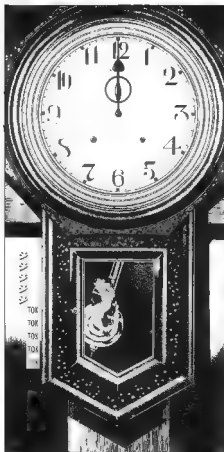






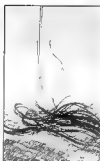


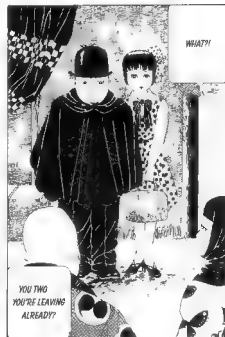


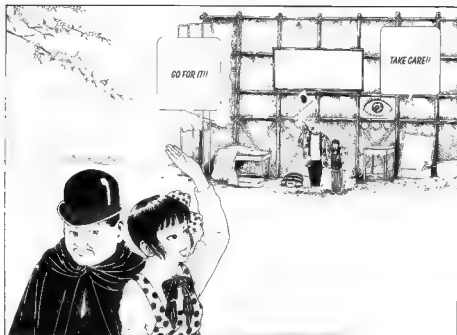








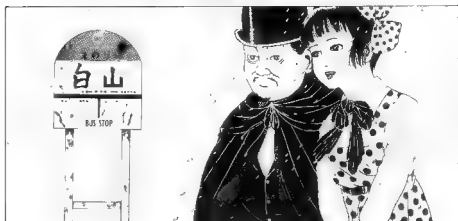


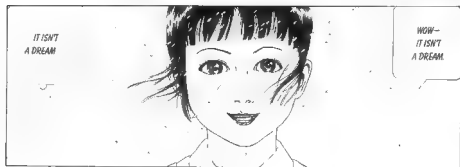




I HOPE I WILL  
SEE THEM AGAIN  
SOMEDAY

I HOPE SO TOO.

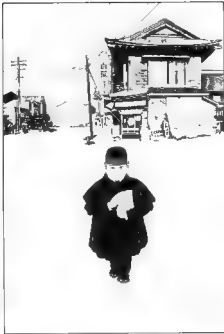


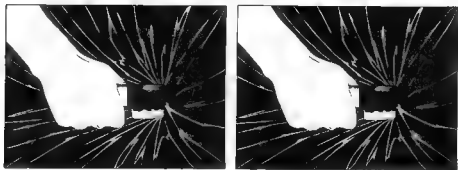
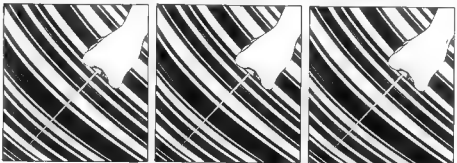


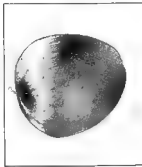


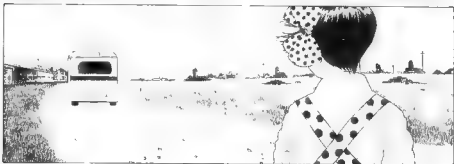
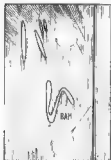
# FAREWELL, SWEET CHERRY BLOSSOMS

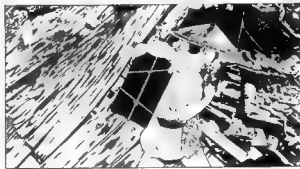
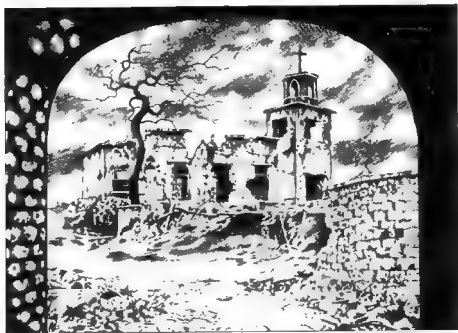


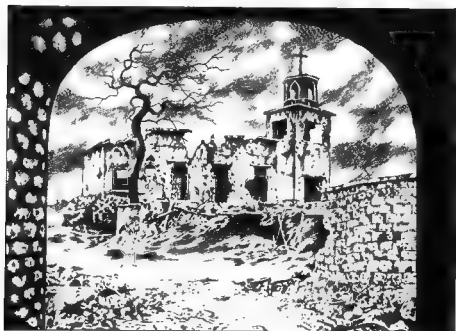
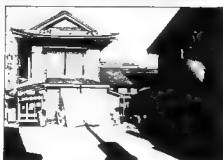


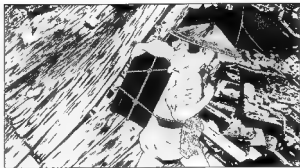








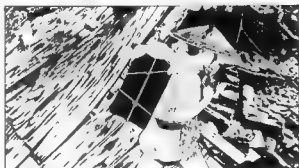








ACHOO!



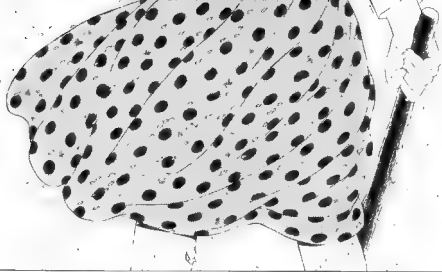
WHERE ARE YOU?











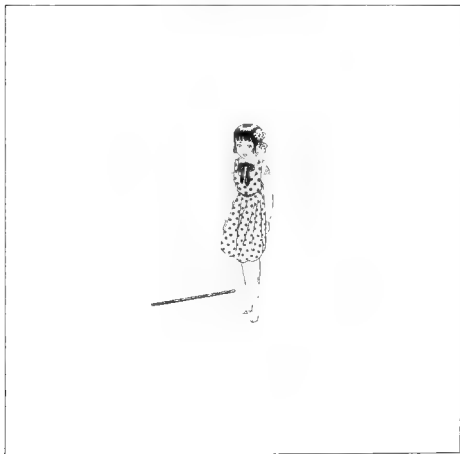














WAAAAAAAAHHH!! う  
わ  
~~~~~  
ん  
!!

## RECENTLY PUBLISHED BY BLAST BOOKS

### GUILLOTINE: ITS LEGEND AND LORE

*Daniel Gerould*

"The best elements of anthology, history, and anecdote. . . . This compelling subject could not have been handled better."—METRO

6 x 9", 320 pages • \$14.95 pb • ISBN 0-922233-02-0

### THE DRUG USER: DOCUMENTS 1840-1960

*Edited by John Strausbaugh and Donald Blaise*

"... A quietly defiant comeback to the 'just say no' rhetoric of the moment."

—VILLAGE VOICE LITERARY SUPPLEMENT

5¼ x 8¼", 256 pages • \$10.95 pb • ISBN 0-922233-05-5

### MORAVAGINE

*Blaise Cendrars*

*Translated from the French by Alan Brown*

"Rip-roaring fiction and imaginative adventuring on all planes of experience."

—TIMES LITERARY SUPPLEMENT

5¼ x 8¼", 266 pages • \$9.95 pb • ISBN 0-922233-04-7

### PANORAMA OF HELL

*Hideshi Hino*

*Translated from the Japanese by*

*Screaming Mad George, Charles Schneider, and Yoko Umezawa*

"One of the most brain-churning works of art you'll ever see."—LA WEEKLY

6 x 9", 200 pages • \$9.95 pb • ISBN 0-922233-00-4

### VENUS IN FURS AND SELECTED LETTERS

*Leopold von Sacher-Masoch*

"*Venus in Furs* is the quintessential Sacher-Masoch novel . . . a deviant classic."

—NEW YORK PRESS

5¼ x 8¼", 224 pages • \$9.95 pb • ISBN 0-922233-01-2

**ORDERING INFORMATION**—BLAST BOOKS is distributed to bookstores, wholesalers, and libraries exclusively by Publishers Group West, 4065 Hollis Street, Emeryville, CA 94608. Call (800) 788-3123, or in California call collect (510) 658-3453. In the United Kingdom and Europe, Blast Books is distributed by Turnaround Distribution, 27 Horsell Road, London N5 1XL, England, telephone: (71) 609-7836.

**INDIVIDUALS**—Send your order to Blast Books, P.O. Box 51, Cooper Station, New York, NY 10276-0051. Add \$2.00 postage and handling for the first book and 50¢ for each book thereafter.

## NOTE

To preserve Suehiro Maruo's original design, *Mr. Arashi's Amazing Freak Show* has been published in the same page order as the Japanese edition.

Japanese is read from right to left—the opposite direction of English—so you'll find the beginning of this book at the back, where English-language books end.